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Monday, September 2, 2019

Kongo, Louisiana, & the Black South

Adolph Rinck, *Woman wearing a Tignon*, 1844. Oil on canvas.
Map of West Central Africa, ca. 1700.
Above left: View of M'Banza Kongo (Salvador, present day Angola), 1688. Below left: Luumbu, or the royal enclosure, where the funeral of Ma-Kayi, the Kongo court minister of commerce is held, Cabinda, Angola, circa 1787.
Clockwise from above left and right: Two diagramatic renderings of the Kongo cosmogram. Detail of Colonoware, showing Kongo cosmogram on base, South Carolina, 18th century. Saint Christopher medal (with relief compass on rear) found in Fort Mose, St. Augustine, FL, date unknown. Silver.
Left & right: Benjamin Henry Latrobe, drawn and written details about the instruments and performance of a *bamboula*, Congo Square, New Orleans, Louisiana, February 19, 1819.

Left: Lorenzo Dow Turner, *Film still of rural African Americans performing a traditional “Ring Dance,” Sea Islands, GA*, circa 1930s.